**Circular Rail in Ahmedabad**

@1730. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for a circular Railway in Ahmedabad; if so, whether a project report has been submitted to the Ministry of Railways;

(b) whether the Gujarat Government have also undertaken a survey of its techno-economic feasibility; if so, whether the project would be included in the Eight Five Year Plan; and

(c) whether the Railways have any alternate plans to ease traffic congestion in Ahmedabad; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH). (a) No, Sir.

(b) At the instance of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation/Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority, the Metropolitan Transport Projects (Rlys), Bombay got a techno-economic feasibility study carried out by Rail India Technical and Economic Services for the introduction of a mass rapid transit system for Greater Ahmedabad area. The report was submitted to the State Government in December, 1988. The inclusion of this project in the Eight Five Year Plan will depend upon the availability of resources, in the context of national and State level priorities. (c) No, Sir.

**Import of seeds**

1731. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of seeds imported during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent on the import of seeds annually and the names of the countries from which seeds were being imported;

(c) the details of the amount spent during the last three years annually on Agricultural Research Institutions and Universities which are engaged in developing better quality of seeds in the country; and

(d) what is Government's policy to produce better quality seeds in the country and save foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) (a) and (b) The details of seeds imported during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86, as available, are as under:

*Qty. in Tonnes*
*Value in Lakh Rupees*

| 1983-84 | | 1984-85 | | 1985-86 | | Source |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | Qty. | Value | |
| 303 | 21.82 | 64 | 28.42 | 33,172 | 30 16 | Japan, U S.A., Nepal, Australia, Netherland, Singapore, Zimbabwe, Denmark. German F Republic, Italy, Thailand and Guinea. |

@Previously Unstarred Question 1513, transferred from the 8th March, 1989.

(c) Year-wise expenditure on Crop Institutes, National Research Centres, Project Directorates and all Agricultural Universities for 1985-86 to 1987-88 are as follows.–

| Year | (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---|---|
| 1985-86 | 8886.80 |
| 1986-87 | 8941 00 |
| 1987-88 | 10026.05 |

(d) Government of India is giving highest priority to the development of improved varieties/hybrids of various crops and production of breeder seeds and has a policy to evolve and multiply high quality seeds of hybrid varieties of various crops. The New Seed Policy Provides incentives for domestic seed industry to grow with simultaneous provision for providing access to the Indian farmer to best seeds/planting material available any where in the world.

**Setting up of training centres for TV programme producers**

1732. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up training centres for TV programme producers;

(b) whether any such centre is likely to be set up in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) (a) There is a proposal to set up an Institute at Lucknow to meet the needs for organising specialised training for both the programme and engineering personnel of Doordarshan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Indian nurses in Saudi Arabia**

1733. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Saudi Arabia are compelling the Indian Nurses working there, who are expecting babies, to have their deliveries in India even a few days before the due dates of delivery, thus exposing them to grave risk of life at that advanced stage of pregnancy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to protect the interests of those Indian Nurses working in Saudi Arabia?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) The Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia have reported that they are not aware of any such case and they have not received any complaints in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Withholding a cheque by a Deputy Manager of NCCF from a private party against a contract for import of wet dates**

1734. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Deputy Manager of NCCF accepted a cheque for Rs. 3.20 lacs from a private party in October, 1983 against a contract for import of wet dates;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the concerned Officer accommodated the party by withholding the cheque without encashment by about 3 months which was